

1 H.366

2 Introduced by Representatives Cina of Burlington, Burke of Brattleboro,

3 Colburn of Burlington, Dunn of Essex, Gonzalez of Winooski,

4 Haas of Rochester, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Rachelson of

5 Burlington, and Weed of Enosburgh

6 Referred to Committee on

7 Date:

8 Subject: Education; school construction

9 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to end the period
10 of suspension of State aid for school construction projects.

11 An act relating to ending the suspension of State aid for school construction
12 projects

13 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

14 Sec. 1. 2007 Acts and Resolves No. 52, Sec. 36 is amended to read:

15 Sec. 36. STATE AID FOR SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION; SUSPENSION

16 (a) The commissioner of education shall not accept, review, or act on any
17 applications for state aid under chapter 123 of Title 16 submitted after

18 March 7, 2007 unless, prior to March 7, 2007, the electorate voted funds or

19 authorized bonds, and thereafter all periods for reconsideration of the vote

20 have expired, except for those projects which are:

1 (1) eligible to be assigned first priority under 16 V.S.A. § 3448(a)(3);

2 (2) necessary to ensure the health and safety, as determined by the
3 commissioner, of students and employees using the building; or

4 (3) school consolidation projects eligible for 50 percent aid under
5 16 V.S.A. § 3448(a)(7)(C).

6 (b) It is the intent of the general assembly to use the time that state aid for
7 school construction is suspended to review the recommendations of the
8 commissioner of education and the commissioner of finance and management
9 reported under Sec. 38 of this act and, based on those recommendations,
10 develop a sustainable plan for state aid to school construction. If no plan is in
11 place by July 1, 2008, the general assembly will extend the period of
12 suspension until a plan is in place; provided, however, that any extension of the
13 period of suspension shall end on or before June 30, 2017.

14 Sec. 2. 2008 Acts and Resolves No. 200, Sec. 45, as amended by 2009 Acts
15 and Resolves No. 54, Sec. 22 is amended to read:

16 Sec. 45. CONTINUATION OF SUSPENSION OF STATE AID FOR
17 SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

18 (a) In Sec. 36 of No. 52 of the Acts of 2007, the general assembly
19 suspended state aid for school construction in order to provide time to enable
20 the commissioner of education and the commissioner of finance and
21 management to make recommendations for a sustainable plan for state aid to

1 school construction. In the absence of a viable plan for funding school
2 construction, the general assembly hereby extends the period of suspension
3 until a plan is developed and adopted; provided, however, that the period of
4 suspension shall end on or before June 30, 2017.

5 * * *

6 Sec. 3. 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 51, Sec. 45 is amended to read:

7 Sec. 45. STATE AID FOR SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION; EXTENSION
8 OF SUSPENSION

9 (a) In 2007 Acts and Resolves No. 52, Sec. 36, the General Assembly
10 suspended state aid for school construction in order to permit the Secretary of
11 Education and the Commissioner of Finance and Management to recommend a
12 sustainable plan for state aid for school construction.

13 (b) In 2008 Acts and Resolves No. 200, Sec. 45, as amended by 2009 Acts
14 and Resolves No. 54, Sec. 22, the General Assembly, in the absence of a
15 recommendation, extended the suspension until a sustainable plan for state aid
16 for school construction is developed and adopted.

17 (c) State aid remains suspended ~~pursuant to the terms of 2008 Acts and~~
18 ~~Resolves No. 200, Sec. 45 as amended by 2009 Acts and Resolves No. 54,~~
19 ~~Sec. 22~~ until on or before June 30, 2017.

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1 Sec. 4. STATE AID FOR SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION; END OF
2 SUSPENSION

3 Beginning in FY 2017, the Secretary of Education shall accept and review
4 any applications for State aid pursuant to 16 V.S.A. chapter 123 submitted
5 after March 7, 2017.

6 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

7 This act shall take effect on passage.